(b) The Central Ground Water Board under its ground water exploration programme aided by Remote Sensing, Geophysical and hydrogeological studies has drilled 14 wells largely for irrigation purposes in Dang, Kutch and Panchmahal districts of Gujarat. Out of these 8 wells have been successful, the success rate being 37 per cent.

**Utilisation of Water Resources of Brahmaputra**

*146. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA :
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have undertaken a study to utilise water resources of the Brahmaputra in order to augment water supply to the Ganga and Hooghly to improve the navigability of Calcutta Port as also to augment supply to the basins of the reivers Mahanadi, Godavari and Krishna ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to examine its feasibility to implement it ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Some Studies have been carried out for augmenting water supply to the Ganga from the Brahmaputra but not for augmenting supply to the basins of the rivers Mahanadi, Godavari and Krishna.

(b) There are two alternative possibilities for augmentation from Brahmaputra ;

(i) Brahmaputra Ganga Gravity Link Canal passing through India and Bangladesh, which will need the concurrance of Bangladesh.

(ii) Brahmaputra Ganga link canal contained entirely within Indian territory but involving pumping of water through a lift of 125 meters.

(c) While conceptual paper studies have been carried out for alternative (i) ; pre-feasibility studies on the ground have been carried out for alternative (ii).

**Production of Pulses, Oil Seeds and Coarse Grains**

*147. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the estimated production of oil seeds, pulses and coarse grains during the current year as against last year ;

(b) what is the likely production of food-grains this year as against last year; and

(c) whether Government are formulating any plans for farmers and additional employment potential in rural sector through agro-based industries ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) and (b) The final estimates of production of various crops being grown during 1991-92 have not yet become due from the States. However, as per the current assessment, the production of coarse cereals, pulses, total foodgrains and total oilseeds this year as compared to 1990-91 are given in the table below :—

(Million tonnes)

| crop | 1991-92 (Likely) | 1990-91 (Final) |
|---|---|---|
| Coarse cereals | 29·3 | 33·06 |
| Total Pulses | 13·8 | 14·06 |
| Total Foodgrains | 171·1 to 173·1 | 176·23 |
| Total nine oil-seeds | 17·1 to 17·6 | 18·46 |

(c) The Government have formulated number of special production programmes to raise agricultural production.

Continuous efforts are also being made to create employment potential through the growth of agro-based rural industries. Government has been providing various incentives in the form of concessional finance, marketing, training, technology upgradation, etc.